



*Handwritten signature and date: 2/12/04*

PATENTS  
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In Re Patent Application Of :  
Robert McKinnon, Jr. : Examiner: N. Eloshway  
Serial No. 09/579,630 : Group Art Unit: 3727  
Filing Date: May 26, 2000 :  
"METER BOX LID" :  
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AMENDMENT

Mail Stop RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RECEIVED  
FEB 19 2004  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Dear Sir:

The subject patent application is currently being appealed to the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences. The appeal is withdrawn in favor of continuing prosecution of the application. A Request for Continued Examination is filed together with this amendment.

This amendment responds to the final office action dated June 12, 2003. In this amendment:

**Amendments** to the claims begin on page 2.

**Remarks** begin on page 28.

A **Declaration** of Robert McKinnon, Jr., the inventor, is attached hereto.